

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057474

INFORM CONSULS

FOLLOWING RELEAT GENEVA 1721 ACTION SECSTATE 05 MAR

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1721

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

LABOR FOR SEGALL AND AVERY; COMMERCE FOR UPTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, IS, AORG

SKWKECT: ILO GOVERNING BODY CONSIDERS ISRAELI AGENDA ITEM

REF: (A) STATE 49967 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 53707 (NOTAL)

1. AFTER ALMOST TWO HOURS DISCUSSION GB TOOK NOTE OF DIRECTOR
GENERAL'S REPORT ON ARAB ISRAELI SITUATION, HAVING RECEIVED
ASSURANCES FROM DG THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO ANALYZE "VOLUMINOUS"
MATERIAL AND WOULD REPORT TO SOME FUTURE SESSION OF GOVERNING
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BODY.

2. SPEAKERS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES URGED DG NOT ONLY STUDY COMPLAINT BUT MAKE PROPOSALS TO IMPLEMENT JUNE 1974 RESOLUTION WHICH HAD NOT ONLY CONDEMNED ISRAEL BUT HAD ASKED DG AND GB TO USE ALL POSSIBLE MEANS TO HAVE GOI AND DISCRIMINATION IN PALESTINE AND ARAB-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. WORKER VICE CHRM (MORRIS, CANADA) NOTED THAT SOME PEOPLE HAD RESERVATION ON PROCEDURES BUT NOTED THIS IS NOT FORMAL LEGAL BODY. HE HOPED DG WOULD FOLLOW SPIRIT OF ILO CONSTITUTION AND PURSUE STUDY WITH OBJECTIVITY. MAKLOUF (WORKER REP FROM TUNISIA) SUPPORTED OTHER ARAB SPEAKERS AND ADDED HE HOPED SOME DAY SEE REPRESENTATIVES OF PALESTINE SITTING IN GB AS MEMBERS.

3. US GOVT REP SAID AGENDA ITEM REPRESENTS IN ITS BACKGROUND AND ITS CONTINUATION SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE DUE PROCESS FOR WHICH ILO HAS WORKED FOR 50 YEARS AND THAT ITS INVESTIGATIVE MACHINERY WAS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. HE SAID: "WE ARE ALL PROUD OF THE IMPARTIAL MACHINERY OF THE ILO." FACT THIS MACHINERY HAS NOT BEEN USED BUT INSTEAD VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS HAS OCCURRED IS SERIOUS ISSUE. USG FELT COMPELLED IN NOVEMBER 1975 TO GIVE NOTICE OF ITS INTENT TO WITHDRAW WHILE ALSO STATING OUR INTENTION TO WORK HARD TO RETURN ILO TO ITS BASIC TRADITIONS. THIS AGENDA ITEM PRESENTS THE RESULTS OF IMPATIENCE WITH ESTABLISHED MACHINERY. WHILE POLITICAL QUESTIONS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY IMPORTANT TO COUNTRIES IN AREA CONCERNED, WE MUST DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN IMPORTANCE OF THESE PROBLEMS AND THEIR RELEVANCE TO ILO. CONDEMNING WITHOUT INQUIRY PUTS GB AND DG IN EMBARRASSING POSTURE OF CONTINUING VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS. (US REP THEN QUOTED FROM STATEMENT OF FORMER DG JENKS ABOUT CONFERENCE NOT ACTING AS TRIBUNAL.) COMMENTS OF OTHER SPEAKERS REFLECT PROBLEM RESULTING FROM BYPASSING MACHINERY. WHY NOT USE THAT MACHINERY? WHY CONTINUE VIOLATION? HOPE USG VIEWS SHARED BY ALL MEMBERS AND THAT WE CAN CEASE TO EMBARRASS THE DG WHO SHOULD BE UPHOLDING ILO TRADITIONS, NOT BE ASKED TO DESTROY THEM. HOPE PRESENT SITUATION BE SEEN AS ABERRATION AND NOT SET PRECEDENT. GB SHOULD DECIDE ENOUGH HAS BEEN DONE AND DISPOSE OF ISSUE NOW.

4. BEN-ISRAEL, WORKER REP FROM ISRAEL, SPOKE ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE, ASSERTING GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS AND FREEDOM GRANTED BY CONFIDENTIAL

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GOI. BROWN, US WORKER REP, SAID HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SATISFIED TO ALLOW DG CONTINUE STUDY QUESTION BUT REMARKS OF PREVIOUS SPEAKERS (LINKING STUDY DIRECTLY TO 1974 RESOLUTION AND CALLING FOR IMPLEMENTATION) RAISED SERIOUS POINT SINCE APPARENTLY CASE HAS ALREADY BEEN HEARD AND JUDGED. HE COULD HAVE ACCEPTED CONTINUING ROLE BY DG BUT IF PRECEDENT BEING SET, THROUGH LINKAGE TO RESOLUTION, "THIS IS QUESTION OF LIFE OR DEATH OF ILO. IF YOU PUSH US TO WALL AND MAKE US ACCEPT CONDEMNATION BEFORE

MACHINERY USED, THEN WE CAN'T STAY IN ILO."

5. SOVIET GOVT REP GOROSHKIN SAID PREVIOUS SPEAKERS HAD CONDEMNED CONFERENCE FOR VIOLATING CONSTITUTION BUT IN FACT RESOLUTION HAD BEEN PASSED IN STRICT CONFORMANCE WITH ILO PROCEDURES. GB AND DG ARE SHOWING DISRESPECT FOR CONFERENCE BY DELAY. SOME PEOPLE SAY ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN POLITICIZED, BUT IN FACT BY DELAY WE ARE CREATING POLITICAL PROBLEM.

6. UK GOVT REP FORWARD (SPEAKING FOR EC-9, GB MEMBERS UK, GERMANY, ITALY AND FRANCE) SAID HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON 1974 RESOLUTION SINCE EC-9 ATTITUDE ON THIS WELL KNOWN. HE SAID "WE SHARE HOPE OF US GOVT REP THAT IN FUTURE, CONFERENCE, GB AND DG, WILL NOT BE CONFRONTED WITH SUCH A SITUATION," AND HE CONCLUDED BY RECOMMENDING GB TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT. GOVT REPS FROM NORWAY, CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH UK STATEMENT. DG CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE THOUGHT HE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AND AT SOME FUTURE POINT GB COULD DECIDE TO WIND UP AFFAIR OR HAVE RECOURSE TO OTHER MACHINERY. MEMBERS WOULD HAVE TO CHOOSE, BUT HE NOTED MACHINERY IS IMPARTIAL AND OBJECTIVE AND HAS PROVEN ITS WORTH.

6. COMMENT: CONSIDERING INFLAMMATORY NATURE OF SUBJECT, DISCUSSION CONDUCTED IN RELATIVE LOW KEY (INCLUDING U.S. REP STATEMENT) AND OUTCOME AS SATISFACTORY AS COULD BE EXPECTED.

7. STATEMENTS BY EC-9 REPS AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC REPS REFLECTS DECISION THEY PAINFULLY CAME TO AS DEMONSTRATION TO U.S. OF AGREEMENT ON DUE PROCESS PRINCIPLE AND DESIRE TO COOPERATE ON ISSUE WHICH REALISTICALLY IS CONSIDERABLY BLURRED BY VIRTUE OF BEING IN MID-STREAM AS RESULT PREVIOUS ACTIONS AGREED UPON BY CONSENSUS IN GOVERNING BODY. SEVERAL COMMENTED PRIVATELY AFTER DEBATE TO U.S. REP THAT HIS STERN CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITION WITH THEM IN LAST DAYS HAD BROUGHT UNANIMITY WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE ELUDED GROUP. DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED GUATEMALA.

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NNN

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